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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/675,245

09/29/2003

Paola Zuliani

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01/25/2005

SEED INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW GROUP PLLC

701 FIFTH AVE

SUITE 6300

SEATTLE, WA 98104-7092

EXAMINER

PERT, EVAN T

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2826

DATE MAILED: 01/25/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

(A)

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/675,245	Applicant(s) ZULIANI ET AL.	
	Examiner Evan Pert	Art Unit 2829	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 7, 8 and 10-19 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 4 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 5, 6 and 9 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>0304</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claim 9 is objected since "the transistor" should read --The memory device--.
Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by either Lin (US 5,017,985) or Tsai (US 6,190,983 B1).

Both Lin and Tsai disclose a high voltage transistor (i.e. 20 in Lin and Fig. 1D in Tsai), integrated in a semiconductor substrate with a first conductivity (i.e. 12 in Lin and 100 in Tsai), comprising a gate region comprised between corresponding source and drain junctions (i.e. under gate 16 in channel 32 in Lin and under gate 140 in Tsai), wherein the junctions comprise first regions lightly doped with a second type of conductivity (i.e. 26/24 in Lin and 160 in Tsai) and heavily doped second regions with the second type of conductivity (i.e. 30/28 in Lin and 200 in Tsai), wherein said more doped second regions of the first regions are positioned immediately adjacent to opposite sides of the second regions (i.e. the more doped regions 30/28 in Lin lie centrally within the lighter doped regions 26/24; likewise, the more doped regions 200 in Tsai lie centrally within the lightly doped regions 160).

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 5 and 6 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.
5. Claim 9 is objected to for a minor informality, but is otherwise allowable.
6. Claims 1-3, 7-8 and 10-19 are allowed.
7. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

The prior art does not disclose applicant's claimed process, memory device or high-voltage transistor, particularly characterized by the high-voltage transistor formed to have a "thin" dielectric layer that "covers said source and drain regions only at locations of said first and second portions of said lightly doped first regions (wherein Tsai does not show this coverage and wherein Lin explains that the dielectric 18 of the disclosed high voltage transistor is not "thin," as claimed [col. 4, lines 43-53].

Furthermore, the prior art fails to disclose claimed features of the high-voltage transistor in the context of a memory device having floating gate.

Conclusion

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The references cited relate to applicant's invention in that high-voltage transistors are disclosed, having some features claimed, but these reference, alone or in combination, can not be used to make a valid rejection of the pending claims.

Art Unit: 2829


9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Evan Pert whose telephone number is 571-272-1969.

The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (7:30AM-3:30 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nestor Ramirez can be reached on 571-272-1957. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

ETP
January 24, 2005


EVAN PERT
PRIMARY EXAMINER